

POU Command

Overall command of Public Order Unit (POU) operations will be the responsibility of the Public Order Commander. The role of Public Order Commander will be assigned to one member per shift to ensure continuity of operations and an adequate period rest for each Commander.

The POU Commanders are:

Day Shift – A/S/Sgt. Avery Flanagan – Ottawa Police Service

Night Shift –

The POU Commander will report to the Event Commander and is responsible for the overall coordination and movement of POU Teams throughout the operation, management of the POU Plan, meeting objectives for POU Teams as assigned by the Incident Commander.

The overall POU Commander will be supported in the POU Command centre by the commanders of each service deployed in the field at that time. Each police service will provide a commander to operate in support of the overall POU Commander at all times their individual service team is deployed in the field.

At any time, and at the discretion of the POU Commander, they may appoint a service Commander as the Deputy POU Commander. This capability will allow for Command coverage should the POU Commander need to leave the room for any reason including, but not limited to, meetings, briefings breaks or any other reason that would draw them away from the command centre or significantly divert their attention for any period of time.

Operational Cycles

POU Command Operations will run on a 24/7 basis on a 12-hour operational cycle. The day shift cycle will commence at 8am and run until 8pm. The nightshift cycle will commence at 8pm and run until 8am. It is the responsibility of the relieving POU Commander to arrive in a sufficient time prior to the start of their shift to be briefed and ready to assume command at the identified time.

Wellness

The wellness and sustainability of the Commander is extremely important. Given their need to absorb and process information and make critical decisions, each POU Commander shall take a 20 min rest at minimum, every 2-3 hours, at a time that it is operationally possible to do so. Individual services commanders and the IC can, at any time, recommend the POU Commander take a break to ensure they remain able to operate at a high level.

If the POU Commander needs to be removed from his duties at any time in either a temporary or permanent capacity, they will appoint a Deputy POU Commander to assume command and immediately inform the Incident Commander.

